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| TO: | Examiner Hope A. Robinson ART UNIT 1656 | FROM: | SHELLY GUEST CERMAK |
| FAX: | 571.273.8300 | REF. NO: | US-104 |
| VOICE: | | PAGES | 3 (incl. this sheet) |
| App. No.: | 10/716,473 | DATE: | October 19, 2005 |

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- 1) This Facsimile Cover Sheet (1 pg)
- 2) Response to Requirement for Restriction (2 pp)



Shelly Guest Cermak
Registration Number 39,571

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OCT 19 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

GUNJI et al.

Application No.: 10/716,473

Filing Date: November 20, 2003

For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING L-
AMINO ACID USING
METHYLOTROPH

Art Unit: 1656

Examiner: Hope A. Robinson

Attorney Ref. No.: US-104

VIA FACSIMILE TO: 571.273.8300**RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION**Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 23, 2005, which set a 1-month shortened statutory period for response thereto, Applicants hereby elect **Group I with traverse**. Claims 1-4 and 6 are readable thereon. Applicants submit a search of the method claims of group I and the product claims of group II is largely coextensive and would not pose an undue burden on the Examiner. Hence, applicants request withdrawal of the restriction and examination of all the claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present patent application is in condition for allowance. An early indication of the allowability of the present patent application is therefore respectfully solicited.


If Examiner Robinson believes that a telephone conference with the undersigned would expedite passage of the present patent application to issue, she is invited to call on the number below.

Att'y Dkt. No. US-104

U.S. App. No:10/716,473

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and the requisite fee is hereby authorized to be charged to our deposit account, 50-2821.

Respectfully submitted,



Shelly Guest Cermak
Reg. No. 39,571Date: October 19, 2005**PTO Customer Number: 000038108**

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